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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WINSFORD



# REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief

Public Health Inspector

for the Year 1962



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WINSFORD

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R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR 1962



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MEMBERS OF  
THE WINSFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
1962

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL  
Councillor W.J.W. Forgham, J.P.,

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL  
Councillor G. Tomlinson

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor G. Tomlinson - Chairman  
Councillor H. Proctor - Vice-Chairman  
Councillor J. Jackson  
Councillor L. Jackson  
Councillor L. Knight  
Councillor G. Garnett  
Councillor P.G. Tipple  
Councillor H. Sadler  
Councillor J. Wrench  
Councillor J.N. Wilson, C.C.,  
Councillor A.S. Wilding  
Councillor D. Atherton  
Councillor W.J.W. Forgham  
Councillor G. Morgan  
Councillor Mrs. J. Wrench





ORGANISATION OF THE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

ESTATES OFFICER

DR. F. SEYMOUR

T.H. ROGERSON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Estates Work

Pupil P.H.I.

N.T. Taylor

and Assistant

to Estates Officer

Public Health

Deputy C.P.H.I.

F. Lamb, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

All public health duties

Publicity Material - films

Town Development

Miss K. Greenwood

Secretary and

Typist to Department

Additional P.H.I.

R.D. Clarke, M.R.S.H.

Full time supervisory

Meat Inspection

J. Long

F. Breeze

B. Porter

TRAINEE MEAT INSPECTOR'S - FULL TIME





DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES  
OF THE TECHNICAL STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT

Mr. F. Lamb D.C.P.H.I.	Housing - including repairs, slum clearance, mortgages and improvements etc., Rent Act procedure, investigation of applications for Council houses and attendance at Public Health and Housing Allocation Committees. Camping Sites - Licencing and control. Drainage and Sewerage. Sampling.
Mr. R.D. Clarke	Inspection - Food premises, shops and dairies, Hairdressers & Barbers, including registration. General complaints as directed. Supervisory Meat Inspection - Bacon Factory, Weaver Street, Fittons, Moors and Rowbothams slaughterhouses. Licencing and control of Abattoirs.
Mr. N.T. Taylor	Infectious Diseases. Factories Acts and Registers. General complaints as directed. Housing with Mr. Lamb. Clean Air Act, including factories, smoke control areas and atmospheric pollution generally. Relief supervisory Meat Inspector. Swimming bath water, and atmospheric pollution analysis and records. Estate work with Mr. Rogerson.
Mr. J.C. Long	Meat Inspection at Bacon Factory, Weaver Street and Moors slaughterhouses. Meat Inspection records. Annual and other reports. General assistance on office work.
Mr. B. Porter	Meat Inspection at Bacon Factory and Fittons slaughterhouses. Meat Inspection records. Laboratory assistance.
Mr. F. Breeze	Meat Inspection at Bacon Factory and Weaver Street. Rodent Control and Weather records. Maintenance of Laboratory and Laboratory assistance.
Mr. E. Adams	Rodent and Insect Control. Maintenance of Stores and Stores records.



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WINSFORD

Telephone No. : Northwich 4251/2

Hartford Hill,  
David Street,  
NORTHWICH,  
Cheshire.

July, 1963.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Winsford Urban District Council.

Dear Mr. Chairman & Councillors,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the  
environmental health and sanitary circumstances of the Council's  
district for the year 1962.

I would like to express my appreciation to Mr. Rogerson,  
the Staff of the Public Health Department and the Council's Chief  
Officers for the co-operation and help they have given me during the  
year.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

F. SEYMOUR.

Medical Officer of Health.





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S E C T I O N I

GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

(1) GENERAL STATISTICS

Population (estimated mid-year 1962)	12,860
Area (acres of District)	7,094
Number of inhabited dwellings	4,244
Rateable Value of Area	£130,455
Product of Penny Rate, 1962/63	£522. 1s. 3d.

Comparative Statistics - 1961/62

	Year	
	1961	1962
Population	12,800	12,860
Rateable Value	£116,445	£130,455
Product of Penny Rate	£480	£522
Number of inhabited dwellings	4,117	4,244

(2) VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	103	98	201
Illegitimate	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>
	<u>109</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>210</u>

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population	16.3
+Corrected Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Comparability Factor 0.99)	15.5
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total births	4.28

<u>Stillbirths</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
	4	1	5

<u>Total Live and Still Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live and Still Births	113	102	215

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and still births 23.2

Deaths of Infants under 1 year	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	7	2	9

Infant Mortality Rates

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births	42.5
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks) per 1,000 total live births	19.0
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week) per 1,000 total live births	14.3
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still Births and deaths under 1 week combined over 1,000 total live and still births)	37.2

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Deaths	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
All causes	84	70	154

Death Rate per 1,000 population 12.0

+Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population  
(Comparability factor 1.16) 13.9

+ NOTE:

The corrected birth and death rates are those which are obtained when the crude local rates are adjusted to make allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales. The corrected rates are comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales, and the corresponding adjusted rates for any other area.



Causes of Death

As will be seen from the following table the two principal causes of death were disease of the heart and circulation which caused approximately 53% of the deaths, and cancer which caused approximately 11%.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	-	2
2. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	-	3
3. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	-	2
4. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
5. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
6. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	4	5	9
7. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1	1
8. Diabetes	-	1	1
9. Vascular lesions of nervous system	15	10	25
10. Coronary disease, angina	13	13	26
11. Hypertension with heart disease	2	1	3
12. Other heart disease	12	14	26
13.. Other circulatory disease	1	1	2
14. Pneumonia	7	2	9
15. Bronchitis	6	2	8
16. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	-	3
17. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1	1
18. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
19. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	2	2
20. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
21. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1	1
22. Congenital malformations	1	2	3
23. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	10	18
24. All other accidents	2	-	2
25. Suicide	-	1	1
	84	70	154

S E C T I O N   I I

HEALTH SERVICES

(1)    HOSPITAL SERVICES

The Winsford Urban District lies within the area of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board whose offices are at Cheetwood Road, Manchester, Telephone number - Deansgate 6441.

(2)    LABORATORY FACILITIES

Specimens and samples taken by the Health Department are submitted for examination at the Chester Public Health Laboratory.

(3)    AMBULANCE SERVICE

The ambulance service is provided by the County Council and is under radio control from Central Control at County Hall, Chester. All 999 calls made by members of the public are immediately connected to this central control. The arrangement for non-urgent calls is that the patient or general practitioner should ring the Northwich Depot - Telephone number : Northwich 3355.

(4)    MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING:

This service is provided by the Cheshire County Council by the undermentioned nurses covering the district:-

	<u>Telephone No.</u>
Miss. I.A. Bremner, 204, Ways Green, WINSFORD.	Winsford 2548
Miss. P.M. Jones, 8, Wellfield, Wharton Road, WINSFORD.	Winsford 2766
Mrs. E.M. Jones, 2, Westlands Road, MIDDLEWICH.	Middlewich 2311



(5) CHILD WELFARE CENTRE AND HEALTH VISITORS

The Health Visitors for the Winsford Urban District are:-

<u>Name &amp; Address</u>	<u>Telephone No.</u>
Mrs. M. Brown, Child Welfare Centre, 98, Weaver Street, WINSFORD.	Winsford 2387
Miss. J.M. Gassick, Child Welfare Centre, 98, Weaver Street, WINSFORD.	Winsford 2387

Baby Clinics are held every Friday afternoon between the hours of 2 and 4, during which Proprietary Foods are sold to mothers attending the Clinic. Welfare Foods only, i.e., National Dried Milk and Orange Juice are obtainable at the Rates Office, High Street, Winsford, each day except Monday. This arrangement will cease on 1st January, 1963, and Welfare Foods will only be available at the Child Welfare Clinic on Tuesday mornings between 9 and 11 and Friday afternoons between 2 and 4.

(6) Information concerning the other County Health Services in the area such as Home Help, Chiropody Service, Care and After Care equipment etc., can be obtained from the Divisional Medical Officer at Hartford Hill, David Street, Northwich. Telephone Number - Northwich 4251/2.

(7) A Family Planning Clinic is held every Monday, from 2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. at the County Council Clinic, Weaver Street, Winsford.

(8) A "Darby & Joan" Club which meets on the last Friday in each month between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. is held at the Wharton Road Methodist Sunday School rooms. Men over 65 and women over 60 are eligible to join.

S E C T I O N   I I I

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948-1951

Section 47

Under this Section when persons (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, the local authority may apply to a court of summary jurisdiction for an Order to remove the person to a suitable place.

Section 50

Under this Section the District Council has the duty to arrange for the burial of any person who has died in their area, if no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body are being made.

It was not necessary to take any action under either of these Sections during the year.



S E C T I O N IV

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

1. NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following are the infectious diseases notified for the years 1961 and 1962.

DISEASE	Cases Notified	
	1961	1962
Measles	436	-
Meningococcal Infection	1	-
Scarlet Fever	-	1
Pneumonia	-	4
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	3

The number of patients on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the years:-

<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>
72	74	59	56	54	57	58	57	52	48	51	49

2. B.C.G. PROTECTION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

In addition to the B.C.G. protection against tuberculosis as carried out at the local Chest Clinic on actual contacts to cases of tuberculosis and the vaccination of new-born babies at some maternity hospitals in Manchester, the parents of school children of the 12 - 13 years age group in the area are being offered this form of protective treatment. The response to date on the part of the parents to take advantage of this protection for their children has been good.

3. DIPHTHERIA/WHOOPING COUGH/TETANUS IMMUNISATION

The immunisation rate for Diphtheria can only be considered satisfactory when 75-80% of the child population is adequately protected. "Adequately protected" implies immunisation during the first twelve months of life, with booster injections at school entry and again at eight to nine years.

In the Mid-Cheshire Division it would appear that parents on the whole are not having their children immunised early enough and, in addition, only a small proportion are making arrangements for their children to receive a booster injection. The Divisional Health Committee is taking steps to improve the situation and it is hoped that parents will do everything in their power to secure a satisfactory immunisation rate for the area.



SECTION V

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Continued progress has been made on the development scheme which is being undertaken under the Town Development Act, 1952.

72 families came into the town under the Overspill Agreement with Manchester Corporation. Most of the wage earners are employed on the Industrial Estate and are the first of the 15,000 people which are expected to be accommodated in the town under this Agreement during the next 10 years.

During the year four more factories were erected on the Estate and work was proceeding on another large Depot. Since the first site works commenced 2 years ago a total of 6 factories have been completed and are now operating.

Five of these factories are leased by the Council to tenants, their management being undertaken in the Department by the Chief Public Health Inspector acting in his capacity as Estates Officer.

Consideration is being given to the provision of a block of small nursery factories on the Estate. These would cater for the small industrialist until such time as his business expanded to warrant a standard type of factory.

In addition to the building work on the Industrial Estate, the small Dyestuffs & Chemical Factory was completed and commenced operating on the site in Wharton Road provided by the Council. An existing building in New Road is also being converted into a factory producing aerosols.

Work continued on the construction of estate roads and sewers.



SECTION VI

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Statement of Inspections made and Notices Issued

Nature of Inspections made	Number	Number of Notices Served.			Remaining in hand
		Statutory	Informal	Notices complied with	
1. Dwelling houses (General)	574	13	79	91	1
2. Tents, vans, sheds	22	-	1	1	-
3. Privy middens, pails, cesspools	32	10	22	22	10
4. House drainage	62	2	21	2	21
5. Ditches, watercourses etc.,	15	-	-	-	-
6. Offensive accumulations	3	-	4	3	1
7. Keeping of Animals	5	-	2	2	-
8. Offensive trades	54	-	-	-	-
9. Slaughterhouses (Public)	-	-	-	-	-
10. Slaughterhouses (Private)	2577	-	5	3	2
<u>Other places where food is produced or sold:-</u>					
Bakehouses	25	-	3	1	2
Canteens	15	-	-	-	-
Cafes	13	-	2	1	1
Foodshops	85	-	12	10	2
Butchers Shops	25	-	-	-	-
Other food premises	97	-	1	-	1
11. Dairies	14	-	-	-	-
12. Factories with mechanical power	57	-	6	5	1
13. Factories without mechanical power	18	-	1	1	-
14. Other premises under the Act (including works of buildings)					
Outworkers premises	12	-	-	-	-
15. Ashbins	8	-	1	1	-
16. Overcrowding	5	-	-	-	-
17. Places of amusement	15	-	1	1	-
18. Verminous premises	6	-	-	-	-
19. Water Closets	75	-	-	-	-
20. Water Supply	14	-	-	-	-
21. Shops (Shops Act)	11	-	-	-	-
22. Miscellaneous	96	-	14	14	-
23. River Boats	-	-	-	-	-
24. Infectious Diseases	12	-	-	-	-
25. Interviews	491	-	-	-	-
26. <u>SAMPLING</u>					
Water	34	-	-	-	-
Ice-cream	4	-	-	-	-
27. Hairdressers	5	-	3	3	-
28. Smoke Abatement & Smoke Control	109	-	142	142	-
29. Markets	6	-	-	-	-
30. Disinfestation	22	-	1	-	1

No prosecutions were instituted during the year.



## WATER SUPPLY

The mains supply is provided by the Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board from bore holes in the Delamere area. This is fed to the storage reservoir at Whitby's Lane, Over.

This water is satisfactory in quality but the quantity will have to be supplemented to meet the requirements of the Town Development which is now being undertaken. It is understood that a new 15" main is to be brought into the town and will join the existing 12" main in Middlewich Road.

Seven samples of mains supply were taken by the Department for bacteriological examination from various parts of the district, and in addition 25 similar samples were taken by the Water Board. All these were reported to be satisfactory, no coliform bacilli being present in 100 ml. of water.

The water supplied to the district does not have a plumbo-solvent action.

Only one farm and one cottage occupied by seven persons and situated at Petty Pool, Whitegate, are without a mains supply. These premises are situated a considerable distance from a water main and the supply is taken by gravity from a shallow well. The bacteriological condition of this well water varies considerably, sometimes showing evidence of faecal coli, but at other times these organisms are absent. The occupiers have been advised to boil the water before use.

All other dwelling houses numbering 4,118 and occupied by 12,853 persons, are supplied from the public water mains direct to internal taps within the houses. There are no dwelling houses supplied by means of stand-pipes.

## PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

The Council's Open Air Brine Baths had an attendance of 22,062 persons compared with 34,091 the previous year. The Baths are usually open from May until September depending upon weather conditions.

7 samples of swimming bath water were taken during the season and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. All were satisfactory.

The chlorine content of the water is closely supervised. The Baths Superintendent carries out colorimeter tests three times daily and in addition weekly samples for free chlorine determination are analysed in the Departments own laboratory.



## REFUSE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL

The present refuse collection service is over a 14 day period. The refuse is disposed of at the Over and Wharton filter beds, where tipping is to continue until provision is made adjacent to the site of the new sewage works.

In order to minimise the fly nuisance, the tips, are regularly treated with insecticides. It is pleasing to note that provision has been made in this years estimates for the purchase of covering material when necessary. It is only by the prompt covering by an adequate layer of suitable material that nuisances from the tips can be prevented. In addition the tip face should not be left uncovered for more than 24 hours, and should not normally be greater in depth than 6'.

## INSECT CONTROL

In addition to contract work carried out for the control of insect pests in food premises, the Pest Control Officer has treated domestic and other premises for the eradication of various insects.

Two types of ant, the Black Garden Ant and the Yellow Meadow Ant are commonly met with in domestic premises. Fifty three infestations occurred throughout the year, but these were controlled by a 5% Solution of Chlordane or by a Dieldrin based insecticidal lacquer.

The caterpillar stage of the Small Ermine Moth caused considerable damage to hawthorne hedges on parts of the Dene Estate and caused 14 complaints by emigrating up house walls and windows. A considerable amount of spraying had to be done on infested premises, using a D.D.T. 50% micro-crystalline paste, in a water solution before these pests were controlled.

Infestations of Cockroaches have been cleared from domestic premises, from behind ovens in a canteen kitchen, and from the boiler house of a bakehouse. Control was effected by using a 1% Dieldrin dust activated by 0.3% pyrethrin to give an immediate knockdown, or by using a Dieldrin based lacquer as a residual insecticide.

One complaint of fleas was treated. This was eradicated by using a 5% D.D.T. Spray and Lindane Smoke Generators.

Four houses were cleared of wasps and wild bees. In two cases these insects had nested in unused chimneys and had then gained access in considerable numbers to bedrooms via the fire places. Lindane Smoke Generators eradicated these infestations.

It is hoped that more food premises will take advantage of this service when they are circularised. It is pleasing to note that arising from the report of 1961, the Council authorised the purchase of a van for the Department. When this is obtained it will greatly increase the efficiency and scope of the service.



## SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Maintenance work necessitated by subsidence continues at the main Over and Wharton Works, the Wharton works being particularly affected. The three small works at Meadow Bank, Clive and Whitegate continue to function satisfactorily.

Special maintenance of plant and provision of additional sludge drying facilities is being undertaken at these small works.

The Council has appointed Messrs Ward, Ashcroft & Parkman of Liverpool as Consulting Engineers in the preparation of a comprehensive scheme for the sewerage of the district. This scheme will provide for the development, both Industrial and Residential arising from the agreement with the Manchester Corporation for the reception of overspill population as well as for the existing town.

Work is now well in hand on the construction of the new sewers. Phase I of the work having been completed a start is being made on the major part, Phase II, which includes the construction of the new Sewage Disposal Works at the Wade's Crossing site off Bradford Road. These new works will cater for the foul sewage flow from the majority of the Urban area.

It is anticipated that the new disposal works and the sewerage system generally will come into use progressively during 1963/64 and as this takes place it will mean that the two old major disposal works situated on the banks of the flashes will go out of use for the treatment of sewage. It will then be possible to fill up the old beds and improve the area formerly used for sewage treatment.



## RODENT CONTROL

This service has again been very active during the year, particularly at the sewerage works where constant treatments have to be made to keep the rat population within bounds.

Sewers have been treated every six months by sodium fluoracetate, and nowhere in the sewerage system is the infestation more than light.

The service to domestic premises is free but business premises are charged an annual contract fee or on a time and material basis.

No special survey work has been undertaken during the year, but this side of the work will be intensified when motor transport is obtained.

## LICENSED CAMPING SITES

Four of the five sites with planning permission have been reviewed and licences issued under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. The conditions in the licences are based on the Model Standards for Camping Sites adopted by the Council and issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

The details of the licenced sites are as follows:-

Site	Area	No. of Caravans	
	Acres	Residential	Recreational
1. Stoneley's Off William Street	2.73	11	29
2. Stock Hill	3.0	Nil	20
3. Newbridge Meadow Bank	0.59	3	10
4. Grange Lane	0.75	2	Nil

The planning permission in respect of No.4 site is personal to the occupier and the licence is for a period of 3 years only.

The site operators have been given a two year period to comply with the requirements of the licences.

Details of requirements in respect of the remaining site at Foxwist Green have not yet been settled. This has been in operation as a seasonal site since 1919, but is not used to any large extent. The present mains water supply is inadequate for any large development, and this problem together with the removal of 'bus bodies and sheds' is now being investigated.

An appeal against a planning enforcement notice was pending at the close of the year in respect of the Dock House Camping Site.



## RECREATION GROUNDS

Bowling greens, tennis courts and other facilities are provided at the existing Wharton and Over recreation grounds. The Council owns an area of land adjacent to the Wharton recreation ground which it is hoped in the future to develop as an extension to the recreational facilities of the district.

## REGISTRATION OF HAIRDRESSERS & BARBERS

Byelaws relating to Hairdressing Hygiene have been confirmed by the Minister of Housing & Local Government and these are now operative in the district.

Section 148 of the Cheshire County Council Act, 1953, is in force locally and all persons carrying on the trade are required to register themselves and their premises with the Council.

- 5 - Gentlemen's Hairdressers and
- 17 - Ladies Hairdressers are registered.

All these premises have been inspected and improvements in hygiene have been made as a result of these visits.

## CANAL BOATS

No canal boats are now registered with the Council.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

## KNACKERS YARDS

There are no Knackers Yards in the district.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES

Some of these trades are carried on at the C.W.S. Bacon Factory, which is registered under Section 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to undertake gut scraping, blood drying and bone boiling.

No specific complaints about these processes have been made during the year, although odours are noticeable from time to time. These arise mainly from the careless operation of the plant rather than mechanical breakdown.



## SHOPS ACT

Only the provisions of the Shops Act, 1950, relating to sanitary conveniences, temperature and ventilation are enforced by the Council. The remaining welfare provisions of the Act are enforced by the County Council which is the Shops Acts authority for the district.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Surveyor's Department is responsible for the cleansing and maintenance of all Public Conveniences.

Complaints of misuse are often made, although the conveniences are cleaned daily. In an attempt to reduce damage, the locks on the W.C. doors were removed.

It is unlikely that conditions will ever be satisfactory in the existing type of small unattended convenience, and it is hoped that as the town develops in size these will be replaced by more suitable accommodation.

## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

This Act requires owners of pet shops to be licensed, and the granting of a license depends upon whether the accommodation for the animals and the care provided are satisfactory.

Two persons are licensed under this Act, one operates a general Pet shop and the other sells Foreign Birds from an aviary.

Both these premises were inspected during the year and found to be satisfactory.

## DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS

The County Police administer this Act. 60 notifications were received of suspected Anthrax; 50 of these concerned pigs which died or were dead on arrival at the C.W.S. Bacon Factory. None of these suspected cases were confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Foods Veterinary Surgeon.

Under The Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order, 1957, 3 persons are licenced by the County Council to collect and boil swill.



AGRICULTURE (SAFETY HEALTH & WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956.

The provision of sanitary accommodation has been checked by the Pest Control Officer during his visits to farm premises. Of those visited none was found to be without adequate sanitary accommodation. All farmers in the district were advised of these provisions when the Act was introduced, but when time permits a more comprehensive survey will be made.

NOISE

No complaints of noise have been received during the year.

In addition to the more recent powers of the Noise Abatement Act, 1960, the Council has powers under Section 131 of the Cheshire County Council Act, 1953, to deal with noise nuisances. The Council is a member of the Noise Abatement Society.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The types of sanitary accommodation other than water closets are as follows:-

Pail Closets (including 2 chemical closets)	-	63
Privy cesspools	-	23

The main sewer serving the Swanlow South area has now been laid and statutory notices under Section 47, Public Health Act, 1936, were served at the close of the year on owners of premises where conversion to water closets was necessary.

The Council has also approved a sewerage scheme for the lower end of Littler Lane, the sewage to be pumped by a rising main into the main sewer. This will enable a further 13 houses to be converted and will dispense with the existing unsatisfactory settlement tank which has caused pollution of a water course.

The motor gully/cesspool emptier enables private cesspools and septic tanks to be emptied regularly. This is carried out twice per year on all domestic premises free of charge. When these sewerage schemes are completed and the premises affected are converted, it is estimated that only about 50 premises in outlying areas will remain with pail or privy closets.



SECTION VII

THE HOUSING ACT, 1957

SLUM CLEARANCE

Slum clearance has again been largely concerned with the completion of the original 5 year programme, and the preparatory work for the next programme.

During the year 6 houses were demolished and a further 12 were closed pending demolition. It is pleasing to record that during the same period 43 families totalling 124 persons, were rehoused. These families came mainly from the terraced houses in Hill Street and High Street which were awaiting demolition. These were areas from which many of the tenants had been reluctant to move. The offer of new bungalows, flats or houses within their own neighbourhood overcame this reluctance, and finally there was much eagerness to obtain a new home as quickly as possible. These families are now happily settled, many of them beside their previous neighbours and relations.

The following table illustrates the activities of the Council in slum clearance during the post-war years:-

YEAR	Number of Houses Demolished
1945-1954	27
1955	19
1956	24
1957	22
1958	13
1959	6
1960	9
1961	16
1962	6
TOTAL	142

Of the total of 142 houses demolished during the post-war period, 80 were included in the first programme and 35 were additions to this programme. This programme commenced early in 1956.

Only 15 tenants remained to be rehoused from this programme at the close of the year. It is expected that the houses remaining will be demolished within the next twelve months.



Demolition orders have been revoked on 2 houses following the submission of undertakings to make the premises fit for human habitation. Improvement grants have been approved in both cases and the dwellings are being reconstructed to make good houses.

Most of the preparatory survey work has been carried out to formulate another slum clearance programme, although it is not anticipated that this will be as large as the original 5 year scheme.

OVERCROWDING

	No. of dwellings	No. of families	No. of persons
(a) The number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year together with the number of families and the number of persons dwelling therein.	4	7	28
(b) The number of new cases of overcrowding reported during 1962.	2	5	17
(c) The number of cases of overcrowding relieved and the number of persons concerned in 1962.	5	8	32
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses in respect of which the L.A. have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding have again become overcrowded.	Nil	Nil	Nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to conditions in relation to overcrowding upon which the M.O.H. may consider desirable to report or which the Minister may from time to time require.	Nil	Nil	Nil



## COUNCIL HOUSING

At 31st December, 1962, the Council owned 1,223 dwellings. The first houses on the new Grange Estate were handed over in March and by the end of the year 113 had been completed. 86 were let to families who moved into the town in connection with the Town Development Scheme and 27 to local people. In addition 64 vacancies occurred in existing houses making a total of 177 dwellings available for letting.

The allocation of these tenancies can be analysed as follows:-

Local domestic cases ...	...	34
Slum Clearance ...	...	43
Manchester Overspill ...	...	72
Industrial Nominations ...	...	28
		<hr/>
		177
		<hr/>

## TRANSFERS AND EXCHANGES

13 tenants were transferred to alternative accommodation more suitable to their requirements and 11 mutual exchanges of tenancy were authorised.

## HOUSING WAITING LIST

In December, 1962, the position was as follows:-

Applicants without separate accommodation (Lodgers) ...	47
Applicants with separate accommodation (Tenants, Owner/Occupiers) ...	70
Applicants living outside the Council's district ...	33
	<hr/>
	150
	<hr/>

20 of the above applicants are over 60 years of age.

During the year 74 new applications were received.

## PRIVATE HOUSING

Private housing development continues in the area and during 1962, 39 new dwellings were completed. This number will rise considerably by reason of a number of new private housing estates being opened up.



## THE RENT ACT, 1957

No applications were received during the year for Certificates of Disrepair. Since the introduction of the Act only 16 applications have been made for Certificates, 14 of these occurring in 1958.

Tenants appear to be no longer interested in the provisions of this Act to seek reductions in rent and to obtain repair of their premises.

## IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSES

The Improvement Grant Scheme is mainly administered by the Surveyor's Department, applications being investigated by the Council's Building Inspector. The determination of the future life of properties involved is made by the Health Department. The repair of the property to be improved is a vital first step if full advantage of the improvement grant scheme is to be made.

At present the Department can only concentrate on slum clearance work and the day-to-day complaints of dis-repair. There are still many houses in the town which have not been surveyed.

A comprehensive picture of the housing situation in the town is badly needed. Apart from the need to secure the repair of houses where necessary, it is of considerable importance both to the community and occupiers that as many houses are improved as possible.

A comprehensive improvement programme would ensure that

- (1) occupiers enjoyed what can only be described as the basic needs of modern housing,
- (2) the need for large demolition programmes would be reduced and as a result the need for Council houses.

In addition there is the problem of overcrowding which has not been tackled since the last overcrowding survey some twenty five years ago.

The Minister of Housing and Local Government has already said in his Circular No. 42/62 that he wants to see a very big increase in the number of houses improved. He states "that for a real impact local authorities must be prepared to make a systematic approach to the problem. This means tackling it street by street, or area by area; and it entails - especially at the outset - a great deal of work. But once the idea of improvement takes hold it will spread. Two or three authorities have already started on area improvements in this way - with encouraging results.



The first thing is to select the streets or areas most worth improving. Perhaps the easiest is one containing sturdy, terraced or semi-detached Victorian houses, each of 5 or 6 rooms and good for another 20 or 30 years at least; but lacking hot water systems, bathroom, indoor W.C. etc. These houses are easily improved. But a good job can be made of smaller, less promising houses. What is very useful is if the street or area contains several more or less identical houses, so that improvement of one demonstrates what can be done to the others.

Having selected the street or area the authority must then tell all the owners and tenants that they want to get all the houses capable of it improved. If the houses are much of a pattern, and the authority can indicate what may be involved in the way of improvement (e.g. installation of a new back-boiler fire place, conversion of one of the bedrooms to bathroom and W.C., or building this over the back scullery, etc.,) such guidance is bound to be helpful. It would be better still if they can get the owner and tenant of one house or pair of houses to provide a demonstration - on which figures of both the capital cost and the addition to the rent can be supplied.

There will be resistances. Owners may say they cannot raise their share of the capital cost; in such cases the authorities might offer to lend it. They do not know how to go about getting plans out; the authority can tell them - or perhaps provide type plans. Tenants may have to be temporarily housed elsewhere during work; the authority can help. Elderly tenants do not want to be disturbed - or tenants of any age may be reluctant to pay more rent; they may need persuading. A family may be too cramped if a bedroom is turned into a bathroom; this may be met by the authority offering to rehouse in return for nominating a smaller family.

At the end of it there may still be some owners who for one reason or another are unwilling to improve their houses; although the houses are perfectly capable of being improved at reasonable cost. If they are willing to sell such houses to the authority so that they can do the improvement the Minister will readily sanction the loan; and if they are not willing the Minister will be prepared to consider the use of compulsory powers - especially if the houses are in streets or areas where other owners are carrying through improvements."

The Minister asked every local authority with houses worth improving to think how they could get better progress; and to let him know what action they proposed to take. He has already been advised of what is being done in this matter, but more progress is possible if up-to-date and detailed information on the housing situation in the district can be obtained.

A comprehensive survey to obtain this information should be made as soon as possible. The details required for purposes of repair, improvement and overcrowding could be readily incorporated on a card system. Factual information of this nature could be obtained by an experienced building tradesman such as a good joiner or bricklayer. This in turn could be passed to one of the Inspector's who would deal with the administration of the survey and any final inspection which might be necessary for costing repairs or for legal action.



After the completion of the survey it is suggested that the person appointed could be usefully employed in the Department responsible for the maintenance of Council houses. It is strongly recommended that a good building tradesman be recruited for this purpose.

20 Discretionary Grants and 8 Standard Grants were approved during the year, making a total of 206 since the inception of the scheme under the Housing Act, 1949.

## S E C T I O N      V I I I

### FACTORIES

There are 87 factories on the register engaged in the industries detailed below:-

Auto Engineering	...	...	...	12
Bakeries	...	...	...	10
Building Yards	...	...	...	10
Clothing	...	...	...	10
Electro Plating	...	...	...	1
Engineering	...	...	...	6
Foundries	...	...	...	2
Corn Mills	...	...	...	1
Additives to				
Animal Feeding Stuffs	...	...	...	1
Plastic Coating	...	...	...	1
Pottery	...	...	...	1
Printing	...	...	...	2
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	5
Salt Works	...	...	...	3
Tent Makers	...	...	...	1
Dairies	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	8
Works of Engineering Construction				9

13 people are employed as Outworkers to a Clothing Factory, and undertake sewing in their homes.



# FACTORIES INSPECTION

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of	
			Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	7	18	3	-
Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	71	57	5	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' premises).	9	12	-	-
TOTAL	87	87	8	-

Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness(S.1)	3	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temp (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation(S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences(S.7)					
(a) Insuffieient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	5	-	3	-
(c) Not sep. for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	1	-	-
TOTAL	8	7	1	3	-



S E C T I O N IX

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

FOOD PREMISES

Regular inspection of food premises has taken place during the year, and improvements have continued to be made in these premises.

During the year, proceedings were taken against a local confectioner by the County Council Weights and Measures Department, for selling a meat pie containing a house-fly. The case was dismissed for lack of evidence as to how the fly came to get into the pie.

There are 185 food premises in the town, which can be classified as follows:-

- 62 General groceries and provisions, including 4 outdoor beer licences.
- 8 Premises with bakehouses and shops selling bread, confectionery and grocery.
- 25 Licensed Premises.
- 28 Premises selling sweets
- 7 Fish and Chip Shops
- 10 Greengrocers including 4 selling wet fish
- 16 Butchers Shops
- 15 Industrial Canteens
- 8 School Canteens
- 6 Cafes

75 of the above premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream.

MILK SUPPLY

The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959, and the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, are the regulations at present in force.

Under these regulations, the Council is responsible for the registration of persons carrying on the trade of distributor at or from premises within their district, and of premises within their district which are used as dairies, not being dairy farms.



Dealers' licences, however, except for a few which are granted by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, are granted by the County Council, being the Food & Drugs Authority for the district; these cover premises at or from which the milk is pasteurised, sterilised or retailed.

A dealer's (pre-packed milk) licence has been introduced to permit the sale of all three kinds of specially designated milk, where the milk is obtained by the dealer in the container in which it is to be supplied to the consumer.

#### ICE-CREAM

8 samples of ice-cream were taken during the year.

There is only one premises registered for the manufacture of ice-cream. Constant supervision is needed at these premises to ensure that they are kept up to standard.

6 samples of water-ice lollies were also taken and the acidity checked in the department's own laboratory. All came within the limits laid down.

Of the 8 ice-cream samples taken, the following were the results:-

Grade 1	...	7 samples
Grade 2	...	1 sample

The County Council Weights and Measures Inspectors took samples of varied articles of food in the Winsford Urban District during 1962. The following samples were not up to standard:-

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Milk - Channel Island	60 p.p.m. grit and misc. dirt.	Pros. Fined £10 and £6.10.0d. Costs.
Milk - Channel Island	10 p.p.m. grit and misc. dirt.	No action. Same vendor as above.

#### SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

There are five licensed slaughterhouses in the district including the C.W.S. Bacon Factory, regular slaughtering taking place at four of these. The fifth has not yet commenced slaughtering.

Tuberculosis as will be seen from the table has been non-existent in cattle due to the area eradication scheme, and of all food animals there were no whole carcasses condemned due to Tuberculosis. However, tuberculosis is still evident in pigs, much of this being the avian type.



It will be noted that there has been a marked increase in the number of pigs killed, compared with last year.

It has been a great disappointment to this authority that the proposed regulations under Part I of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, to require that all meat shall be inspected and authorising local authorities to make charges for meat inspection, have not yet materialised. The Exchequer grant which is still in existence is insufficient to cover the meat inspection service which the Council has instituted to protect the Public in this important field.

### MEAT INSPECTION

From time to time in these reports anxiety has been expressed over the lack of 100% meat inspection at the local C.W.S. Bacon Factory. The system of line inspection then in use was that of the spotting system, whereby employees of the Bacon Factory (i.e. slaughtermen) on noting any abnormality or evidence of disease in a carcass during dressing, marked the carcass up for further inspection by the qualified meat inspector in attendance.

Obviously this method was most undesirable, due to the fact that the 'spotters' although of good integrity had had no training in meat inspection, and due to the pressure of their work in dressing carcasses on the killing line, noting abnormalities became of secondary importance. It was inevitable that at times, diseased organs escaped notice and were not drawn to the attention of the meat inspector who was working in the cooling hall at the end of the killing line. Due to the large throughput of this factory it was impossible for the inspector to personally check all the carcasses, organs and offal.

This state of affairs which incidentally was by no means confined to our own local bacon factory has now been rectified. A new class of meat inspector recruited from persons of a reasonable standard of education was introduced nationally in 1960, and was required to qualify in meat inspection only.

In the early part of the year two trainee meat inspectors were appointed and commenced duties under the supervision of a qualified inspector. These trainees proved a great asset, working on the killing line at the bacon factory and at the local private slaughterhouses. They also commenced a two year course in elementary bacteriology at Liverpool as a grounding before proceeding to take their approved meat inspection course with a view to qualifying as meat inspectors.

Thus all stages of slaughter of food animals are now covered by a member of this department.

Improvements continue to be made at the local private slaughterhouses.

The following table is a summary of the carcasses inspected and condemned at the C.W.S. Bacon Factory, and at the private slaughterhouses in the district during the year 1962:-



	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,385	270	171	2,780	68,892
Number inspected	1,385	270	171	2,780	68,892
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS &amp; CYSTICERCI</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	14	9	27	12	415
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	69	36	6	7	6,261
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	5.99%	16.67%	19.31%	0.68%	9.76%
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	1,795
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	2.61%
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-



### OTHER FOODS

Under the "unsound food provisions" the under-mentioned articles of food were found to be unfit for consumption and were condemned:-

<u>Articles of Food</u>	<u>Weight</u>		<u>Cause of condemnation</u>
	lbs.	ozs.	
Tins of Fruits, Vegetables, Soup, Steak, Salmon and Cream	49	- 14	Blown tins
Cooked Hams	156	- 3	Decomposition
Cooked Meats	80	- 11	Decomposition
Pork Loin	6	- 0	Decomposition
Bengers Food	1	- 0	Decomposition
Rice		12	Decomposition

### DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED MEAT & OFFAL

At the C.W.S. Bacon Factory, condemned meat and offal is disposed of by way of steam digestors and driers, which results in the condemned meat and offal forming a caked mass which is subsequently ground up into bone meal fertiliser.

Condemned meat and offal from the private slaughterhouses is stained with a dye and collected by a contractor and undergoes similar treatment outside the district. Other foods such as canned foodstuffs are disposed of at the Council's refuse tip.

### SLAUGHTERMEN'S LICENCES

24 slaughtermens licences were issued during the year, 2 of these being for a probationary period only, the holders having to serve under the supervision of a fully licensed slaughterman for this period before being granted a full licence.



## LABORATORY MEAT INSPECTION

Full use continues to be made of the departments laboratory, and as this has proved of interest, it is proposed to report on new developments in these reports.

In the preparation of cultures, the media is prepared from special tablets which are dissolved in distilled water, the resulting mixture is then sterilized and poured into glass petri dishes, where it is left to solidify. The specimen under examination is then plated onto this culture medium and incubated, the amount of growth of bacterial colonies being noted after 24 and 48 hours.

The glass petri dishes had to be carefully cleaned and re-sterilized after each use, and this was a time-consuming and tedious process. Now, disposable petri dishes are used. These are of thin transparent plastic, are cheap and come ready sterilized. Their big advantage is that they can be burned together with their contents thus providing safe disposal.

Before the plating out of any specimens is carried out, a smear is taken from each one onto a microscope slide and stained with special dyes. It is then examined under the microscope to ascertain the type of bacterial flora which may be present.

The microscope at present in use is a pre-war model and has been in use in the department for about 25 years. It is obsolete and showing wear and signs of its age, and it is doubtful if overhaul and servicing would improve its efficiency. It would appear that a replacement may have to be found in the near future.

## S E C T I O N   X

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION - SMOKE CONTROL AREAS

Four more Smoke Control Orders were made during the year viz. The No.4 (Over Hall Estate), the No.5 (Stewarts Estate), the No.6 (Westgate Estate) and the No.7 (Crook Lane Estate) Smoke Control Areas. Details of all these areas in the district will be found on the adjoining table.

The No.2 (Nun House Farm Estate) and the No.3 (Spring Bank Farm Estate) Smoke Control Orders became operative during the year.



The first new houses were occupied on the No.1 (Grange Estate) and the No.3 (Spring Bank Estate) Smoke Control Areas, and this brought in its wake the first difficulties which occupiers encountered in changing over from burning coal to solid smokeless fuels. Numerous advisory visits were made to help tenants overcome these problems. Many of the difficulties involved were easily solved by demonstrating the correct method of ignition and use of smokeless fuels such as gas coke and coalite. In other cases it was found that the faulty assembly of the grate was causing bad combustion.

Complaints were also made about the difficulty of obtaining adequate supplies of certain solid smokeless fuels for open fires. This applied particularly to Coalite which was in limited supply, and to Phimax which is not yet available in this district.

Gas coke is plentiful but not generally appreciated as a good fuel. People who are unused to gas cokes on open fires not infrequently start by trying to burn the wrong sort of coke. This cannot be expected to give satisfaction. An unfavourable impression of the performance of gas cokes on open fires is likely to be left with the householder, and this is liable to foster reluctance to consider their use for that purpose in Smoke Control Areas.

Attempts are being made to obtain increased supplies of the more popular types of solid smokeless fuels, such as coalite, so that this can be mixed with gas coke to make a more readily acceptable fuel.

#### MEASUREMENT OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

A modified analysis of insoluble deposits in the deposit gauges has been made in the Departments own laboratory each month. This analysis provides information on the total insoluble matter deposited, and this again is broken down into tarry matter, ash, and other combustible material. The three deposit gauges are maintained on Woolworth's Stores, at Wharton Vicarage and at the new School on the Grange Estate, and give a general indication of the level of insoluble pollution.

The accompanying table indicates these levels during the past six years. These figures can be considered generally satisfactory for this type of district, with the exception of some results in 1959, which were though to be due to inaccuracies in analysis.

The Standard Deposit Gauge only measures one aspect of air pollution. In order that a reasonably full picture of air pollution in the district can be obtained it is necessary to measure the amount of smoke and Sulphur Dioxide in the atmosphere. Suitable apparatus is now available to do this and it is recommended that the council consider purchasing such an instrument.



The following table gives details of progress up to the  
end of the year

Area	Locality	No.	Acres	Approx. No. of premises when fully developed			Date of Operation of Order
				Houses	Other Premises	No. occupied at 31.12.62.	
Grange Estate		1	112	1100	4	113	1st January, 1961.
Nun House Farm Estate Crook Lane		2	38	375	10	Nil	1st April, 1963.
Spring Bank Estate Off High Street		3	8	82	-	17	1st October, 1962.
Over Hall Estate		4	225	2320	13	Nil	1st September, 1963.
Stewart's Estate Swanlow Lane		5	4	40	-	2	-do-
Westgate Estate Off Delamere Street		6	3	19	-	1	-do-
Crook Lane Estate		7	43	580	1	Nil	-do-



## ANALYSIS OF FIGURES FOR INSOLUBLE DEPOSITS 1957-1962

[illegible]











